

Commissioner for Patents United States Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

GIBSON, PETER O'DONOVAN VIA DEL MUSCHIO 12, INT. 2 CASTIGLIONE D. PESCAIA 58043 ITALY

COPY MAILED

SEP 1 4 2007

OFFICE OF PETITIONS

In re Application of Tommaso Innocenti Application No. 09/866,652 Filed: May 30, 2001

ON PETITION

Title: Online Auction System Facilitating Flexible Terms Commodity Trading

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR §1.137(a), filed August 20, 2007. This petition is being treated under 37 CFR 1.181 as a petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment.

The petition under 37 CFR 1.137(a) is **DISMISSED AS MOOT**. The petition to withdraw the holding of abandonment is **GRANTED**.

This above-identified application was held abandoned for failure to timely file a reply to the decision by the Board of Appeals and Interferences rendered on February 23, 2007. The Board decision provided a two (2) month statutory period for reply. No extensions of time pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) were available. Accordingly, this application was held abandoned on April 24 2007. A Notice of Abandonment was mailed on July 6, 2007.

In the present petition, petitioner contends the a timely appropriate reply was submitted on April 23, 2007.

A review of the Board's decision shows that a new ground of rejection was made. Pursuant to 37 CFR 41.50 when the Board makes a new ground of rejection, the appellant, within two months from the date of the decision, must exercise one of the following two options with respect to the new ground of rejection to avoid termination of the appeal as to the rejected claims reopen prosecution or request a rehearing.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>The Notice of Abandonment states that application was abandoned because the period for seeking court review of the Board decision has expired and there are no allowed claims.

The reply submitted two months from the Board decision on April 23, 2007 included a request for reopening prosecution and amendment.

In light of the grantable petition under 37 CFR 1.181 (no fee), the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(a) is dismissed as moot and the petition fee will be refunded.

The Notice of Abandonment is hereby withdrawn and the application is restored to pending status.

The application is being forwarded to the Art Unit 3691 for further processing.

Telephone inquiries concerning this matter should be directed to the undersigned at (571) 272-3215.

Charlema R. Grant

Charlema E. Me

**Petitions Attorney** 

Office of Petitions